

**District Academic Senate  
Approved Minutes  
Thursday, February 17, 2011**

**I. Organizational Matters**

**A. Roll Call**

President Cox called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m.

Senators	A	P	Senators	A	P
Cox (Ext. 5165) MC		X	Morgan (Ext. 5397) MC		X
Ghodrat (Ext. 2442) WVC		X	Oliver (Ext. 5247) MC/Retterath		X
Hannigan (Ext. 2629) WVC		X	O'Neill (Ext. 5082)		X
Jones MC		X	Ryan (Ext. 2488) WVC		X
Kelly (Ext. 2546) WVC	X		Shoemaker (Ext. 2436) WVC		X
Maia (Ext. 2507) WVC		X	Winsome (Ext. 5217) MC		X
Guests: C. Harrison, R. Berlani		X	Guests:		

**B. Order of the Agenda**

A motion was made to accept the order of the agenda. (M/S/U – Hannigan/Maia)

**C. Approval of the DAS Meeting Minutes**

There are no minutes to approve at this time.

**II. Oral Communication from the Public - None.**

**III. Information & Announcements**

The annual Best of the Best event will take place April 15, 2011, and benefit Mission College's Visual Arts, Graphic Arts, Music, Dance, and Floristry Programs.

**IV. Old Business - None.**

**V. New Business**

**A. District Council/DBAC Issue re: Shared Governance**

Co-Chair Shoemaker provided a history of this issue. In the past, District Council (DC) and District Budget Advisory Council (DBAC) met separately as two bodies. It became apparent that the bodies discussed many of the same issues and that there was overlapping membership. For these reasons, in spring 2010, a suggestion was made by former MC President Harriet Robles to merge the bodies in an effort to be more efficient and reduce redundancy. The result was a body of more than 30 people and it was quickly realized that this was an unmanageable amount of people. Chancellor Hendrickson appointed a task force (made up of the two Academic Senate Presidents, Classified Senate Presidents, College Presidents and Student Senate Presidents) charged with creating a membership proposal for the new body. The task force proposed a body made up of an equal number of voting representatives from the four constituencies (two of the following from each college: faculty, classified, administration and students). Controversy erupted over the fact that the four faculty reps would be selected by the

Academic Senates and therefore there would be no guaranteed ACE voting member. (ACE traditionally had a voting seat on DBAC and for some time on DC). President Shoemaker noted that the Academic Senates could choose to appoint an ACE rep as the faculty rep, but a dedicated ACE voting seat would not be required under this plan. It became apparent that the classified staff union (SEIU) does have a contractually obligated seat on DC/DBAC; many felt that that it was problematic for one union to have a guaranteed voting seat and others not. Another issue was that the decision to merge was deemed inappropriate; such action can only come from the DAS as establishing shared governance procedures falls under the Academic Senate's 10+1 purview.

In fall 2010, the WVCAS passed the following two motions:

"that the West Valley College Academic Senate moves that the WVCAS rescind its motion made at the 9/7/10 meeting, which read 'that the West Valley College Academic Senate moves that the President Shoemaker follows the direction of the vote of the WVCAS regarding the matter of the merging of DBAC and DC,' and that the Academic Senate President actively oppose the proposal to remove ACE from the newly reconstituted District Council."

"that the West Valley College Academic Senate directs the Academic Senate President to communicate to the District Council that it stop all consolidation efforts and changes in the shared governance process and wait for further direction from the District Academic Senate."

Today, the DAS is to begin discussing the potential make-up of the highest level governing body. ~~Chancellor Hendrickson has expressed the expectation that a proposal for the new body be created by the DAS and be ready for implementation by the end of the spring 2011 semester. District Council/DBAC is waiting for input from the DAS on this matter in order to make a final decision by the end of spring semester.~~ The DAS also, at some time, need to discuss the possibility of creating a district shared governance procedure document. The DC/DBAC merge essentially took place under a lack of *district-level faculty leadership to guide the discussion of this major District-level committee change.* ~~. no such policy exists and therefore no official process guided the district level committee change.~~

The discussion turned to ideas for the new body. ACE President Roberta Berlani stated that there is precedence for union representation on the highest governance bodies at other colleges. She expressed concern that no review of the merge has been conducted; how can we make any changes if we don't know what is working and/or not working now? She added that both DC and DBAC as separate entities had a lot to offer and recommended that the DAS consider going back to the way the bodies once were. President Shoemaker and various others felt that the DAS should start from the ground up with a clean slate and create a brand new body that doesn't rely on precedent. It was suggested that other college's district-level governing body structures be examined. Many agreed that the body should be strategically oriented and not constrained by the constraints of the unions. It was also suggested that the DAS consider having two separate bodies with two very separate functions in order to eliminate redundancy.

It was asked whether the charges of DC and DBAC were similar enough to warrant a merge. If not, then the merge would likely dilute the charges of both. How can one body with less people and less meeting time do all the work those two bodies once accomplished? It seemed to some that the merge came more from a fatigued membership that overlapped more than the charges did.

It was noted that the DAS ought to be inclusive if it intends to create an entirely new structure; buy-in will be necessary from the classified, students and administration. The DAS should not dictate district-level shared governance; rather it has the responsibility to ensure a collaborative process takes place in order to create such governance bodies. It was suggested that a DAS taskforce be created to include all four constituent parties along with ACE and be charged with creating a new body proposal. If agreed upon by all constituencies, the model would most likely be accepted by the Chancellor and Board of Trustees. It was agreed that the DAS must be unanimous in which direction it wants to go in this matter before creating such a task force. It was agreed that between now and the next DAS meeting the individual DAS Senators would research particular multi-college districts and their respective district-level governance bodies and then report-out findings and ideas. It was suggested that the four constituency groups be informally contacted and alerted that a task force will likely soon be developed.

#### **B. Update on ACE/Senate Liaison Agreement**

Co-Chair Cox noted that the 1987 ACE/Senate Liaison Agreement was distributed, along with the State Senate's statement on senate/union relations. It was explained that every faculty member is a member of ACE and of the Academic Senate. Title 5 gives the Academic Senate areas of responsibility and the union areas of responsibility. However, there are areas that tend to overlap. A LOU is helpful in order to foster a positive working relationship between the two bodies.

Ms. Berlani stated that ACE counsel has produced LOUs for other districts and will soon be sending a sample to our district that the DAS can review. Various Senators expressed favor in having a LOU in order to clearly establish boundaries, but not with the purpose of ensuring unity between ACE and the Academic Senates

#### **VI. Publications**

None.

#### **VII. Future Agenda Items (In no particular order)**

- A. Course Repeatability Policy
- B. Review of Local Minimum Qualifications and Equivalency

#### **XII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:12 pm. These minutes are respectfully submitted by Academic Senate Secretary Lauren Milbourne.